

## PVHS takes second in Consumer Bowl

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Passaic Valley – Several business-minded students from Passaic Valley High School recently earned a second place title when they competed in the New Jersey Consumer Bowl Contest.

The competition was held at Passaic County Technical Institute in Wayne and was sponsored by the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs.

The students are part of the high school's Consumer Bowl team, which is advised by Kevin Ketcho, PVHS business teacher.

The team went up against four other schools - International High School, Passaic County Technical Institute, West Milford Township High School and Sports Business/ Public Safety Academy - all seeking to attain the first place title in Passaic County.

The PVHS team of five consisted of Caitlin Schwartz (captain), Mary Salim, Kimberly Galbraith, Noel Ruggiero and Albert Zicker. Tiffany Caroselli, Jimmy Lupo, and Andrew Reed were the alternates on the team.

"It's our first year in participating in this contest and it was a miraculous accomplishment in earning second place in the competition," said Ketcho. "We were nervous and did not know what to expect, but as we began buzzing in to answer multiple questions, we gained confidence and enthusiasm.

We did not hold high expectations for a victory, but with a surprise, we came out almost on top."

The team from West Milford Township High School won first place in the competition.

"It was a complete thrill to know we all worked hard to reach our outcome by studying packets and preparing for several months," added Ketcho. "We were one question away from a victory against West Milford and it was quite tedious. But both of our levels of intelligence were nearly as equal."

Ketcho is proud of his students' accomplishment and feels the outcome serves as example of how anything is possible if a mind is set to a goal.

"Our goal was to do our absolute best, no matter what place we received," he explained. "Our main method was to have fun with this experience and that's exactly what each of us did. Not once did any of the students put his or head down after answering correctly. We continued with heads kept high and smiles on our faces."

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**Students from Passaic Valley High School recently won second place in the New Jersey Consumer Bowl Contest, sponsored by the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs. Pictured are the students, along with Kevin Ketcho, team advisor, Pat Lepore, Woodland Park Mayor and County Freeholder.**